

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 6 and 7 are pending in the application, with claim 6 being the only independent claim. Claims 3-5 and 8-13 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter previously recited therein. No new matter has been added.

Applicant acknowledges that claims 6 and 7 have been allowed.

Claims 3-5 and 8-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0212183 (Struck et al.), or in the alternative, as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Struck et al. publication. These rejections are traversed.

Without conceding the propriety of the rejections or of any of the positions on which the rejections are based, and in order to expedite prosecution of the subject application, Applicant has herein cancelled claims 3-5 and 8-13. Accordingly, the only claims remaining in the application are allowed claims 6 and 7.

Favorable consideration and an early notice of allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in Washington, D.C. by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Melody H. Wu/
Melody H. Wu
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 52,376

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

MHW :ayr

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